IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michael Slivka et al. Confirmation No.: 7650

Appln. No. : 10/676,868

Filed: September 30, 2003

Title : METHODS FOR TREATMENT OF DEFECTS IN THE

INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

Art Unit : 1651

Examiner : L.B. Lankford, Jr.

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 6, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.